



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR INFORMATION SERVICE

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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NEW ENGLANDER APPLIES FOR CONSTRUCTION DIFFERENTIAL FUNDS

The first application to the Department of the Interior for a construction differential subsidy to aid in the construction of a fishing vessel to be used for fishing for groundfish in New England fishing areas has been received, Assistant Secretary Frank P. Briggs announced today.

The application was filed from New Bedford, Massachusetts. The proposed vessel will be approximately 78 feet in length and is expected to cost about \$90,000.

The payment of constructional differential subsidies with certain restrictions was approved by the Congress in 1960. The amount of subsidy, where applications are approved, will be equal to the difference between the cost of construction in a shipyard in the United States and the cost in a foreign shipyard, or one-third the cost of construction, whichever is the smaller.

To be eligible for a subsidy, the vessel must be designed for use in a fishery which has received a finding of injury due to increased imports. The plans and specifications must be approved by the Maritime Administrator and the Secretary of Defense. The finding of injury is made by the Secretary of the Interior except when the fishery is eligible to apply for, or has obtained, a recommendation for relief from the Tariff Commission as an "escape clause" action.

When completed, the vessel must be documented as a United States vessel, must employ only citizens or resident aliens in its crew, and must deliver its catches to a port in the United States. The program is administered by the Department's Bureau of Commercial Fisheries, Fish and Wildlife Service.

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